

(1) to issue annually a proclamation calling on the people of the United States to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies and activities; and

(2) to urge all Federal agencies, and interested organizations, groups, and individuals, to fly the flag of the United States at halfstaff each December 7 in honor of the individuals who died as a result of their service at Pearl Harbor.

(Pub. L. 103-308, Aug. 23, 1994, 108 Stat. 1669.)

RECITAL CLAUSES

Pub. L. 103-308 upon which this section is based contained several "Whereas" clauses reading as follows:

"Whereas, on December 7, 1941, the Imperial Japanese Navy and Air Force attacked units of the armed forces of the United States stationed at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii;

"Whereas more than 2,000 citizens of the United States were killed and more than 1,000 citizens of the United States were wounded in the attack on Pearl Harbor;

"Whereas the attack on Pearl Harbor marked the entry of the United States into World War II;

"Whereas the veterans of World War II and all other people of the United States commemorate December 7 in remembrance of the attack on Pearl Harbor; and

"Whereas commemoration of the attack on Pearl Harbor will instill in all people of the United States a greater understanding and appreciation of the selfless sacrifice of the individuals who served in the armed forces of the United States during World War II * * *."

CHAPTER 10—PATRIOTIC CUSTOMS

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| Sec. | |
| 170. | National anthem; Star-Spangled Banner. |
| 171. | Conduct during playing. |
| 172. | Pledge of allegiance to the flag; manner of delivery. |
| 173. | Display and use of flag by civilians; codification of rules and customs; definition. |
| 174. | Time and occasions for display. |
| | (a) Display on buildings and stationary flagstaffs in open; night display. |
| | (b) Manner of hoisting. |
| | (c) Inclement weather. |
| | (d) Particular days of display. |
| | (e) Display on or near administration building of public institutions. |
| | (f) Display in or near polling places. |
| | (g) Display in or near schoolhouses. |
| 175. | Position and manner of display. |
| 176. | Respect for flag. |
| 177. | Conduct during hoisting, lowering or passing of flag. |
| 178. | Modification of rules and customs by President. |
| 179. | Design for service flag; persons entitled to display flag. |
| 180. | Design for service lapel button; persons entitled to wear button. |
| 181. | Approval of designs by Secretary of Defense; license to manufacture and sell; penalties. |
| 182. | Rules and regulations. |
| 182a to 184. | Repealed. |
| 185. | Transferred. |
| 186. | National motto. |
| 187. | National floral emblem. |
| 188. | National march. |
| 189. | Recognition of National League of Families POW/MIA flag. |

§ 170. National anthem; Star-Spangled Banner

The composition consisting of the words and music known as The Star-Spangled Banner is designated the national anthem of the United States of America.

(Mar. 3, 1931, ch. 436, 46 Stat. 1508.)

CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 144 of this title.

§ 171. Conduct during playing

During rendition of the national anthem when the flag is displayed, all present except those in uniform should stand at attention facing the flag with the right hand over the heart. Men not in uniform should remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. Persons in uniform should render the military salute at the first note of the anthem and retain this position until the last note. When the flag is not displayed, those present should face toward the music and act in the same manner they would if the flag were displayed there.

(June 22, 1942, ch. 435, § 6, 56 Stat. 380; Dec. 22, 1942, ch. 806, § 6, 56 Stat. 1077; July 7, 1976, Pub. L. 94-344, § 1(18), 90 Stat. 812.)

AMENDMENTS

1976—Pub. L. 94-344 inserted requirement that during the rendition of the national anthem when the flag is displayed, all persons present except those in uniform should stand at attention, face the flag, and place the right hand over the heart and men with headdress should remove the headdress and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart and when the flag is not displayed, those present should face the music and act in the same manner they would if the flag were displayed.

1942—Act Dec. 22, 1942, substituted "all present should face the flag and salute" for "the salute to the flag should be given" in last sentence.

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in section 178 of this title.

§ 172. Pledge of allegiance to the flag; manner of delivery

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, "I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.", should be rendered by standing at attention facing the flag with the right hand over the heart. When not in uniform men should remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. Persons in uniform should remain silent, face the flag, and render the military salute.

(June 22, 1942, ch. 435, § 7, 56 Stat. 380; Dec. 22, 1942, ch. 806, § 7, 56 Stat. 1077; Dec. 28, 1945, ch. 607, 59 Stat. 668; June 14, 1954, ch. 297, 68 Stat. 249; July 7, 1976, Pub. L. 94-344, § 1(19), 90 Stat. 813.)

AMENDMENTS

1976—Pub. L. 94-344 inserted requirement that during rendition of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, all persons should face the flag and men with headdress except those in uniform should remove their headdress and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart.

1954—Act June 14, 1954, inserted "under God," in the pledge.

1945—Act Dec. 28, 1945, inserted "The following is designated as", inserted the period after "justice for all.",